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SENATE BILL 776

**48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007**

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Kay Papen

AN ACT

RELATING TO INSURANCE; REQUIRING INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR GENERAL ANESTHESIA AND HOSPITALIZATION FOR DENTAL SURGERY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Health Care Purchasing Act is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] GENERAL ANESTHESIA AND HOSPITALIZATION FOR DENTAL SURGERY.--

A. Group health care coverage, including any form of self-insurance, offered, issued or renewed under the Health Care Purchasing Act shall provide coverage for general anesthesia and hospitalization for dental surgery.

B. The provisions of this section do not apply to short-term travel, accident-only or limited or specified disease policies.

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1 C. Coverage for dental surgery may be subject to  
2 deductibles and coinsurance consistent with those imposed on  
3 other benefits under the same group health care coverage,  
4 including any form of self-insurance."

5 Section 2. A new section of Chapter 59A, Article 22 NMSA  
6 1978 is enacted to read:

7 "[NEW MATERIAL] GENERAL ANESTHESIA AND HOSPITALIZATION FOR  
8 DENTAL SURGERY.--

9 A. An individual or group health insurance policy,  
10 health care plan or certificate of health insurance that is  
11 delivered, issued for delivery or renewed in this state shall  
12 provide coverage for general anesthesia and hospitalization for  
13 dental surgery.

14 B. The provisions of this section do not apply to  
15 short-term travel, accident-only or limited or specified  
16 disease policies.

17 C. Coverage for dental surgery may be subject to  
18 deductibles and coinsurance consistent with those imposed on  
19 other benefits under the same policy, plan or certificate."

20 Section 3. A new section of Chapter 59A, Article 23 NMSA  
21 1978 is enacted to read:

22 "[NEW MATERIAL] GENERAL ANESTHESIA AND HOSPITALIZATION FOR  
23 DENTAL SURGERY.--

24 A. A blanket or group health insurance policy,  
25 health care plan or certificate of health insurance that is

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1 delivered, issued for delivery or renewed in this state shall  
2 provide coverage for general anesthesia and hospitalization for  
3 dental surgery.

4 B. The provisions of this section do not apply to  
5 short-term travel, accident-only or limited or specified  
6 disease policies.

7 C. Coverage for dental surgery may be subject to  
8 deductibles and coinsurance consistent with those imposed on  
9 other benefits under the same policy, plan or certificate."

10 Section 4. A new section of Chapter 59A, Article 46 NMSA  
11 1978 is enacted to read:

12 "[NEW MATERIAL] GENERAL ANESTHESIA AND HOSPITALIZATION FOR  
13 DENTAL SURGERY.--

14 A. An individual or group health maintenance  
15 organization contract delivered, issued for delivery or renewed  
16 in this state shall provide coverage for general anesthesia and  
17 hospitalization for dental surgery.

18 B. The provisions of this section do not apply to  
19 short-term travel, accident-only or limited or specified  
20 disease policies.

21 C. Coverage for dental surgery may be subject to  
22 deductibles and coinsurance consistent with those imposed on  
23 other benefits under the same policy, plan or certificate."

24 Section 5. A new section of Chapter 59A, Article 47 NMSA  
25 1978 is enacted to read:

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"[NEW MATERIAL] GENERAL ANESTHESIA AND HOSPITALIZATION FOR  
DENTAL SURGERY.--

A. An individual or group health insurance policy,  
health care plan or certificate of health insurance delivered  
or issued for delivery in this state shall provide coverage for  
general anesthesia and hospitalization for dental surgery.

B. The provisions of this section do not apply to  
short-term travel, accident-only or limited or specified  
disease policies.

C. Coverage for dental surgery may be subject to  
deductibles and coinsurance consistent with those imposed on  
other benefits under the same policy, plan or certificate."

Section 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the  
provisions of this act is July 1, 2007.